



**H.Res. 544 – Expressing the sympathy and pledging the support of the House of Representatives and the people of the United States for the victims of the devastating thunderstorms that caused severe flooding in 20 counties in eastern Kansas beginning on June 26, 2007**

**Floor Situation**

H.Res. 544 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Todd Tiahrt (R-KS) on July 12, 2007. The bill was referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and was reported out by voice vote.

H.Res. 544 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House of Representatives on September 5, 2007.

**Summary**

H.Res. 544 expresses Congress's heartfelt sympathy for the victims of the devastating thunderstorms that caused severe flooding in 20 counties in eastern Kansas beginning on June 26, 2007.

H.Res. 544 also conveys Congress's gratitude to the local, State, and Federal officials and emergency personnel who responded swiftly to the crisis, including members of the Kansas National Guard and Kansas Highway Patrol.

**Background**

On June 26, 2007, a storm system lasting several days was responsible for bringing heavy and torrential rainfall to eastern Kansas. The areas affected received up to 21 inches of rainfall. One person was killed and more than 3,100 homes and businesses were destroyed because of the rainfall. At least 20 counties were evacuated because of the storm.

On July 2, 2007, President George W. Bush declared a major Federal disaster for the State of Kansas that included 17 counties.

This legislation expresses gratitude to those involved in the rescue efforts and expresses support for the state of Kansas as it moves forward from this tragedy.

**Cost**

At the time of publication the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) had not yet scored H.Res. 544.

**Staff Contact**

For questions or further information contact Luke Hatzis at (202) 226-2302.